

FLYING SAUCER DIGEST

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THE SAUCER SCENE

By Carol Hilberg

1969 MINNESOTA LANDING CASE REMEMBERED

An interesting email showed up in the Herald mailbox over the weekend. The message was somewhat mysterious in that it referred to a UFO sighting around New York Mills a long time ago, and the guy that sent the short story wants to remain anonymous. The emailer grew up in New York Mills and now lives in Seattle, but does not want his name attached to the UFO account because he still has family here and doesn't want them to be labeled as "odd."

The brief description that follows is a first-hand account of a night 35 years ago and the author swears on a stack of Bibles the story is true.

In 1969, my family lived on a farm in rural Minnesota a few miles from New York Mills (population 750 at the time). My family, including my father, mother, older brother, myself, and my younger brother, was driving home on a rural dirt road to our farm house near dusk (i.e. some time around 8:30 at night in July). We were heading down the dirt road that passes by our house when we saw a strange light emanating from behind our nearest neighbors' house. The light was brilliant. As we drove nearer we asked each other, "when did our neighbor install a spot light in their yard?"

We approached our neighbors' house for about a mile and kept looking at the light, but did not understand why they had installed such a bright light in their yard. The road turns directly in front of their house. As we headed down the road, my brother, mother, and I kept our eyes focused on the light and we determined the light was not coming from their yard, but instead was coming from a craft/UFO hovering behind their house. After traveling for 200 yards, we turned again and all of us including my father could now see the saucer-shaped craft hovering about 100 feet off the ground 100 yards behind the neighbors' house. The craft was a brilliant orange, metallic color and was 30-40 feet tall and 100-150 feet wide, and it was the classical saucer-shaped craft.

We then turned into our driveway and parked the car about 100 yards from the main road which left the craft hovering about 300 yards south from where we were parked. We all got out of the car and focused our attention on the craft. It continued to hover there 100 feet above the hill in the neighbor's farm field. There was absolutely no sound coming from the craft. The color was a brilliant fiery orange and it looked like there were windows on the upper half of the craft. The light from the craft appeared to have similar characteristics to heat rising from a hot road. We watched the craft from outside our house for about a minute and then went in the house because I believed our parents were worried for our safety. We went in the house and watched the craft hover above that hill for 15 minutes.

After 15 minutes it descended and landed behind that hill. We could no longer see the craft, but there was a brilliant halo of light coming up from behind the hill. We watched the area for another 5 minutes and the craft ascended to about 100 feet above the hill again. It continued to hover there (300 yards south of our house) for another 15 minutes, but then flew away to the south and disappeared in the forest in a swampy area south of our farm. The encounter lasted for over 30 minutes and I still remember it vividly.

After the craft left, my parents put us to bed and went to sleep themselves. My dad slept with a loaded hunting rifle on their bed. My parents never reported the incident because they thought people would think they were nuts. There were other sightings in the area around that time and the people that made reports were labeled as "odd". My parents never even talked with the neighbors about the encounter to see if they saw the craft which landed about 100 yards in back of their house. Source: Kevin Cederstrom, New York Mills, MN Herald January 6, 2005.

DAYLIGHT DISKS IN EL MONTE, CALIF.

"It was a warm sunny day on January 16, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. , and the sky was clear. Two friends and I had been snowboarding and were relaxing in the Jacuzzi when we saw two objects very high up in the sky. They were white specks that could be balloons, but after a minute of observing they were at the same spot. I pointed them out and the guys said they were stars. It was broad daylight! So, I grabbed my binoculars and saw three more high in the sky! My friend got his binoculars and gave them to me because they had a better optical lens. I was able to distinguish that they were in fact circular disk-like forms and white in color, and they moved slightly and when they moved they left a tiny trail which disappeared very quickly. Only one out of the 4 had what appeared to be a blue circular disk-like object sort of affixed to it moving half way around it back and forth.

"I thought about God's Word and what Ezekiel described what he saw and his description of highly polished bronze 'flying wheels' with eyes (portholes) roundabout (all around). In five minutes they were right above our location and four stayed together while the one with the 'blue' was at a distance from them. Five minutes later they headed east." Source: George Filer, "Filer's Files" No. 7 - 2005.

2004 WAS A BANNER YEAR FOR CANADIAN UFOS

WINNIPEG - The London Free Press reports: "There were no little green men to be seen but there were plenty of strange occurrences in the night sky last year. A national survey by Ufology Research of Manitoba shows a record 882 UFO sightings were recorded in Canada in 2004 - an average of more than two a day and up 31% from the previous year. Included in the reports of UFOs were disk-shaped crafts, spectacular fireballs and a large black triangular object moving through the sky. Chris Rutkowski, research co-ordinator for the UFO tracking group, said the results show that people still have a fascination with what's going on above. 'People are curious about the universe,' Rutkowski said yesterday. 'People continue to report observing unusual objects in the sky and some of these objects do not have simple or obvious explanations.' Rutkowski said he's not exactly sure what caused the increase, although sightings have been growing steadily. For a while that could be attributed to popular TV shows such as the 'X-Files' or significant events such as the millennium, he said, but now it might simply be due to more UFO reporting sites on the Internet.

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"Ontario led with 254 sightings, British Columbia was second with 247 and Manitoba was third with 112. Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Quebec all had a record number of sightings. Figures show that more than 5,000 UFO sightings have been officially reported in Canada since 1989. Witnesses include pilots, police and individuals with good observation capabilities, Rutkowski said. About 15% of all UFO reports remain a mystery. Even when only the most high-quality cases are considered, 7% still weren't explained." Source: George Filer, "Filer's Files" No. 9 - 2005.

AROUND AND ABOUT THE SAUCER WORLD

By Rick Hilberg

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Many readers have written in to correct statements that I made in our last issue regarding my review of the December 6, 2004 History Channel "UFO Files" program. In said review I stated that the UFO aliens in the classic Betty and Barney Hill case did not take semen samples from Barney. Well, Readerland says otherwise, as the aliens *did* indeed take said samples.

My mistake here was to rely too much on the older, original literature on the Hill case rather than newer versions from more recently. Sorry about that, folks.

"ALIENS" FORCE SCOTTISH MAN TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY

A north-east university lecturer has said he was forced to flee the country after he was plagued by UFOs he believed were monitoring his every move.

Tom Moir, 44, was just a teenager when he first spotted red lights in the sky near his home in the quiet Aberdeenshire village of Muchalls.

That same night he claims he saw a strange alien-like figure in the middle of the road and a small flying machine which hovered above his head before flying off.

For the next three decades he said he spotted the mysterious lights hovering in and around the village, close to his home.

He was so disturbed by the long-running experience that he felt his only chance of escape was to move to the other side of the world to Auckland, New Zealand.

He said: "I had no choice in this. It was just something that happened. I wanted to get as far away as possible. Although the lights were intriguing, I did find them rather frightening.

"In New Zealand I haven't seen anything coming close to that. But that's not to say there's nothing like that here either."

He said his ordeal began on an isolated country road in December 1971 as he walked home from a piano lesson.

In the distance he noticed a red light flashing on and off, which he thought was a helicopter. A few seconds later he spotted another two lights at either side of him and became suspicious. Scared by what he had seen, Mr. Moir ran home to tell his older sister Alison.

He said they ran outside and saw one of the flying machines, which he believes was sent from another world to record information close-up.

Mr. Moir added: "I didn't hear a thing but it went right over our heads. I looked up and all I could see was a circle of red lights. It hung there for about 30 seconds. Every night of the week from then on the same lights appeared at around the same time. They did seem to be steered by some automatic machinery or intelligence."

Mr. Moir tells his extraordinary story for the first time in the latest edition of Grampian TV's "Beyond Explanation," which delves into some of Scotland's most baffling mysteries.

He has kept his experiences a secret for years for fear of being labeled

"just another weirdo." But he does have some proof.

After enduring the "surveillance" of the UFOs for many years Mr. Moir, an electronics engineer with BSC and PhD degrees who has published more than 50 papers, decided to capture the lights on video camera. "It was me doing the gathering that time, instead of someone gathering the information on me," he said.

His story has been backed up by experts on UFOs. Investigator Brian Allan said: "The guy is explaining to the best of his ability a very real experience that occurred.

"The fact that it's corroborated by other people makes it even more so."

The latest episode of "Beyond Explanation" hosted by film star Brian Cox, also features alien abducted George Smith, from Inch, Aberdeenshire.

He claims to have been visited by beings from another world and taken aboard their craft numerous times.

These trips, he believes, have left him with "super-intelligence" and the ability to take on profound studies.

Mr. Smith said: "This experience has been a tremendous education. I have learned about the workings of the world and the workings of the human body.

"I have also learned how to break down water and use the hydrogen and oxygen to run an engine. Their intelligence is far, far superior to what I can understand."

But both Mr. Moir and Mr. Smith's stories, although accepted by UFO experts, were treated with skepticism by psychologist Kevin Allan.

"People who believe in parapsychological phenomena also tend to have high mental imagery. They may be, in effect, reporting things, not the way in which they took place, but how they remember them. Their own mind is fooling them into believing the event took place when in fact it didn't." Source: Aberdeen, Scotland Press & Journal January 12, 2005.

LAS CRUCES, NEW MEXICO UFO

On Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 6:55 a.m., eyewitness Jim Blackburn reported: "This morning I stepped out into an almost-dawn about five minutes before 7 o'clock all bright-eyed and bushy-tailed after a good night's sleep, facing a cloudless sky and bright early sunlight" in his hometown of Las Cruces, New Mexico. "I was wearing my prescription sunglasses, which give me 20/40 distance vision. I was facing a bit north of west, probably west-northwest, when my eye was distracted by movement in the sky.

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One of the finest UFO and fortean newsletters being published today is IRAAP's *The Messenger*, an interesting and lively newsletter that will keep you up to date on recent happenings. Its editor is Ray Cecot, one of the many tireless investigators that belong to this worthwhile organization based in Albany, New York.

We suggest that you send them \$2.00 for a sample copy of their bimonthly publication. Write to: IRAAP P.O. Box 12233 Albany, NY 12212.

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"What I saw was a solid object, dark brown, but with a darker ridge in the exterior but definitely not with a smooth surface such as a balloon, moving from right to left, i.e., approximately north to south at a low altitude. It moved smoothly, and I could not associate any sound with its movement - no jet engine sound, no whirring propellers or even flapping wings. It did not seem to be rotating. There were two or three brief flashes of light which I supposed to be (the reflection of) bright sun off glass or some polished surface. I watched as it moved away fairly rapidly - out of my sight in less than 60 seconds, I surmise.

"Having nothing in the sky by which to judge the object's size, and not being a professional observer or estimator of distance, my guesses as to the object's size and elevation can only be that. For size, I would guess 8 to 15 feet in diameter. For distance, I would guess 1,000 feet for horizontal distance and 1,000 feet in elevation.

"I proceeded on my morning 'constitutional' walk as usual, with nothing untoward to see and hear. The sun at ground level was very bright. I'm tempted to say 'imperceptible.' I can't believe the object was around and I'm the only one who saw it and is replying." Source: Joseph Trainor, "UFO Roundup" Vol. 10 No. 12.

RECENT CANADIAN REPORTS

WHITBY, ONTARIO - On February 24, 2005, at 6:50 p.m., the witness was driving home on Highway 401, and noticed the full moon and three white lights with a single red light in the center of a craft. "It was hovering over a spot slightly northeast of my position; I'm going to guess it was 'triangular.' This hovering craft was definitely over Whitby, as I watched it while driving east toward it.

"My distance from the object was about 4 miles at an altitude of 2,500 feet. As I drew closer to it, it started to move toward Oshawa, Ontario. It was definitely not a helicopter, it was way too long, not to mention the lighting sequence. The red light seemed to be rotating. I flashed my headlights on and off twice, while driving. It appeared to flash back, but not brightly, there was a difference in its lighting tone. After that happened as I drew closer to it, that's when it started to move off."

LANGDALE, B.C. - A fellow telephoned Brian Vike to report a sighting of a strange object he witnessed on February 26, 2005 at 9:55 a.m. in the parking lot at the BC Ferry Terminal. While standing in the parking lot with his back turned toward the ocean the man glanced up and saw two elongated shiny disks, and in the center of the two disks he was able to see a fuzzy grayish patch.

As he followed the object with his eyes, it made a sharp 45 degree turn where the two elongated disks turned into a circular shape-thing, as he put it. After the turn, it quickly became just a point of light and quickly vanished in about two seconds. The altitude of the object was approximately 8,000 feet and no sound was heard whatsoever coming from the object. The witness "guessed" it may have been about 75 feet in length. Source: George Filer, "Filer's Files" No. 11 - 2005.

CYLINDER-SHAPED OBJECT SPOTTED IN WASHINGTON

On Friday, February 18, 2005, at 4 p.m., Mario L. was driving through his hometown of Kirkland, Washington when he spotted something unusual in the sky.

"It was a sunny day and no clouds," Mario reported. "The object was on the east side as we were traveling south. The object was just floating on the air for like about two or three minutes and then took off at a fast speed. We were facing south when we suddenly hit a curve, and that's when I decided to turn my head. And there it was in the sky.

"I was inside my friend's car, and we were going home from work. That's when I saw this shiny object in the sky. The object was shaped like a pencil. The color was silver and I think it had a reflection of the sun on it. The

object was about the same height as an airliner flies."

Kirkland, Wash., is on the eastern shore of Lake Washington, on 1-405 about 12 miles northeast of Seattle. Source: "UFO Roundup" Vol. 10 No. 9.

38 YEARS OF FSD

Sometimes it's really hard to believe that *Flying Saucer Digest* has been coming out since the spring of 1967. As many of you know, I didn't join the FSD staff until 1970, as that was the year that I merged my "original" *UFO Magazine* into the late Al Manak's FSD.

I only wish that Al could still be with us to celebrate this milestone.

DAYLIGHT DISKS IN CLEVELAND, OHIO

On Tuesday, January 18, 2005, Gary Kubalski was at his home near Rocky River Drive in Cleveland, Ohio when he spotted something strange.

"I woke up at approximately 10 a.m. on the morning of January 18," Gary reported. "It's unusual for me to wake up this late. I looked out my second-floor bedroom window to an awfully bright January day of clear blue skies.

"I immediately notice two grey luminescent disks the size of nail heads traveling in formation at a high altitude, separated a football field apart, moving in an east to west direction. I know I was witnessing something unique, because traveling in the same direction were several planes in the morning sky, one east, another southeast, and the area where I live is close to the air traffic routes to and from Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. As the disks had no visible wing shape and traveled in a swift, steady and straight motion as if on an imaginary string in mid-air, perfectly stable while going from east to west."

"They eventually disappeared gradually into the horizon, blending into the clouded sky to the west.

"I continued watching and, after a minute or two, a single silver disk appeared, traveling the same flight path by itself. I was still wondering about what I was seeing and questioning its validity when this craft made a striking stop in mid-air, hovering still for about five seconds, then made what I could only describe as an 'Etch-A-Sketch' (zigzag) course change by making a 90 degree change to the south for a few hundred feet, followed by a lighting-fast 90 degree course change with no gradual deviation, no radius, no curving or banking of its bodily structure."

The third disk "then traveled even for some time, then reversed course back to its original heading, again disappearing into the haze of horizon. The whole event with the three disks took about 10 minutes." Source: Joseph Trainor, "UFO Roundup" Vol. 10 No. 9.

RECENT FLORIDA UFO ACTIVITY

Royal Palm Beach - "We saw a silver spinning football-shaped object going across the sky on February 23, 2005, at 6 p.m. I thought it was a large Mylar balloon at first, but it was moving horizontally and spinning in a clockwise direction. My daughter saw a light flashing on it, but it looked to me like the sun reflecting as it spun pretty quickly. It was silver in color and flew across the sky and then up. Strangely, about 20 minutes later there were two helicopters in sight out the same window".

Clearwater - The witness reports that on Saturday, March 12, 2005, around 9:30 p.m., he saw two very large off-white circular lights, gliding rather slowly overhead. The lights rotated around one another in a figure 8, about four times, and then faded out completely into the perfectly clear night. Later about 10 p.m., a large orange/amber light, with a diffuse border and an irregular shape that changed constantly like fire was seen. It was moving in the same direction, at the same height, and with the same speed. It also faded out and disappeared. Source: George Filer, "Filer's Files" No. 12-2005.